

## **Executive Order 2005-24**

### **Establishing The Arizona-Sonora Border Security Council**

**WHEREAS**, according to the Pew Hispanic Center, the estimated number of unauthorized immigrants entering the United States each year has risen from 140,000 in the 1980s to over 700,000 in 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, other estimates of the number of illegal border crossings run as high as 3,000,000 per year; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual number of unauthorized immigrants entering the United States now far exceeds the annual number of authorized immigrants who do so; and

**WHEREAS**, a greater percentage of unauthorized immigrants are entering the United States through Arizona than ever before; and

**WHEREAS**, with the increase in unauthorized immigrants coming to Arizona, there has been a corresponding increase in the threat to public health and safety from gangs, 'coyotes' and others engaged in dangerous criminal activities along the Arizona – Mexico International border; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government's failure to secure the United States and Mexico border resulted in the declaration of a state of emergency for Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma counties in the State of Arizona on August 15, 2005, and continuing; and

**WHEREAS**, bilateral cooperation with the state of Sonora and Mexico will further the improvements to the security of the Arizona-Sonora border region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governors of the states of Arizona and Sonora are committed to joint efforts to make the Arizona-Sonora border region the safest section of the United States' International border with Mexico;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby:

1. Establish the Arizona-Sonora Border Security Council consisting of the directors, or their designees, of the Arizona Office of Homeland Security, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the Arizona Division of Emergency Management, the Governor's policy adviser for Mexico and Latin America, and other members as the Governor deems necessary. Members of the Arizona-Sonora Border Security Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor without compensation.

2. Direct the Arizona-Sonora Border Security Council to coordinate security efforts to reduce illegal immigration and resulting criminal activities, and coordinate security efforts with local government and law enforcement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

  
GOVERNOR

**DONE**, in the City of Nogales, Arizona this *19th* day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirtieth.

**ATTEST:**

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

